

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Withdrawn) A therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent for a disease requiring promotion of osteogenesis or enhancement of bone morphogenetic protein production, characterized in that the therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent comprises as an effective ingredient a processed product derived from a plant selected from the following (a) to (c):

- (a) a processed product derived from a plant belonging to Umbelliferae;
- (b) a processed product derived from a plant belonging to Liliaceae; and
- (c) a processed product derived from a plant belonging to Compositae.

2. (Withdrawn) The therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent according to claim 1, wherein the plant is *Angelica keiskei* koidz., *Apium*, *Lilium*, aloe or *Artemisia* L.

3. (Withdrawn) An agent for promotion of osteogenesis or an agent for enhancement of bone morphogenetic protein production, characterized in that the agent comprises as an effective ingredient a processed product derived from a plant selected from the following (a) to (c):

- (a) a processed product derived from a plant belonging to Umbelliferae;
- (b) a processed product derived from a plant belonging to Liliaceae; and
- (c) a processed product derived from a plant belonging to Compositae.

4. (Withdrawn) The agent for promotion of osteogenesis or the agent for enhancement of bone morphogenetic protein production according to claim 3, wherein the plant is *Angelica keiskei* koidz., *Apium*, *Lilium*, aloe or *Artemisia* L.

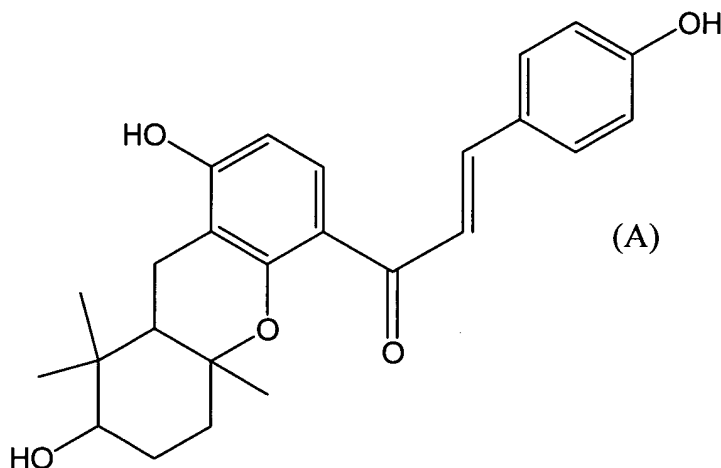
5. (Currently Amended) A food, beverage or feed for promotion of osteogenesis or enhancement of bone morphogenetic protein production, characterized in that the food, beverage or feed comprises a ~~processed product~~ water extract derived from ~~[[a]] at least one~~ plant selected from the ~~following (a) to (e) group consisting of:~~

- (a) ~~a processed product derived from~~ a plant belonging to Umbelliferae;

- (b) ~~a processed product derived from~~ a plant belonging to Liliaceae; and
- (c) ~~a processed product derived from~~ a plant belonging to Compositae.

6. (Original) The food, beverage or feed according to claim 5, wherein the plant is *Angelica keiskei* koidz., *Apium*, *Lilium*, aloe or *Artemisia L.*

7. (Withdrawn) A therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent for a disease requiring promotion of osteogenesis or enhancement of bone morphogenetic protein production, characterized in that the therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent comprises as an effective ingredient a compound represented by the following formula (A):



a derivative thereof or a salt thereof.

8. (Withdrawn) An agent for promotion of osteogenesis or an agent for enhancement of bone morphogenetic protein production, characterized in that the agent comprises as an effective ingredient the compound represented by the formula (A) as defined in claim 7, a derivative thereof or a salt thereof.

9. (Withdrawn) A food, beverage or feed for promotion of osteogenesis or enhancement of bone morphogenetic protein production, characterized in that the food, beverage or feed comprises the compound represented by the formula (A) as defined in claim 7, a derivative thereof or a salt thereof.

10. (Withdrawn) A method for measuring an enhancing action for bone morphogenetic protein production, characterized in that the method comprises the following steps of:

- (a) culturing hybridoma obtained by using HuO9 cells or a substrain thereof, or any one of cell strains therefrom with contact of a test substance; and
- (b) measuring an amount of BMP in a culture medium obtained in the step (a) as an index for an enhancing action for BMP production of the test substance.

11. (Withdrawn) A method for screening a substance having an enhancing action for bone morphogenetic protein production, characterized in that the method comprises the following steps of:

- (a) culturing hybridoma obtained by using HuO9 cells or a substrain thereof, or any one of cell strains therefrom with contact of a test substance; and
- (b) measuring an amount of BMP in a culture medium obtained in the step (a) wherein the test substance is determined to have an enhancing action for BMP production when the amount of BMP is larger than that of a case where the cells are cultured without contact of the test substance or with contact of a control substance having an enhancing action for BMP production.

12. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a substance having an enhancing action for bone morphogenetic protein production, characterized in that the method comprises the following steps of:

- (a) obtaining a substance having an enhancing action for bone morphogenetic protein production; and

(b) measuring the enhancing action for bone morphogenetic protein production of the substance obtained in the step (a) using the measurement method as defined in claim 10.

13. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a substance having an enhancing action for bone morphogenetic protein production, characterized in that the method comprises the following steps of:

(a) culturing hybridoma obtained by using HuO9 cells or a substrain thereof, or any one of cell strains therefrom with contact of a test substance; and

(b) measuring an amount of BMP in a culture medium obtained in the step (a), wherein the test substance is determined to have an enhancing action for BMP production when the amount of BMP is larger than that of a case where the cells are cultured without contact of the test substance or with contact of a control substance having an enhancing action for BMP production, thereby giving the test substance as a substance having an enhancing action for BMP production.

14. (New) A method of enhancing bone morphogenetic protein production, which comprises:

administering to an individual a food, drink or feed comprising a processed product derived from at least one plant selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a plant belonging to Umbelliferae;
- (b) a plant belonging to Liliaceae; and
- (c) a plant belonging to Compositae,

wherein the processed product is at least one product selected from the group consisting of an extract, a powder, a squeezed juice, a pulverized product, a chemically processed product and an enzymatically processed product.

15. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the extract is a water extract.

16. (New) The food, beverage or feed according to claim 5, wherein the water extract is derived from a plant belonging to Umbrelliferae.

17. (New) The food, beverage or feed according to claim 5, wherein the water extract is derived from a plant belonging to Liliaceae.

18. (New) The food, beverage or feed according to claim 5, wherein the water extract is derived from a plant belonging to Compositae.